

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 04271 151554Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 151230Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4407

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 4271

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER

SUBJ: EMBASSY STAFFING

REF: A) VIENTIANE 6645; B) STATE 139334

1. IN RESPONSE TO THE INSTRUCTIONS UNDER REFERENCE,  
THE COUNTRY TEAM PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING AMERICAN  
PERSONNEL STAFFING OF THE MISSION:

EMBASSY	24
EXECUTIVE OFFICE (CHARGE & SECRETARY)	2
POLITICAL (5 OFFICERS, 2 SECRETARIES)	7
ECON-COMMERCIAL/CONSULAR (2 OFFICERS)	2
ADMIN (7 OFFICERS - AMIN, PER, B&F, RSO, 2 GSO, MED; 1 SECRETARY)	8
C&R - 2; TELECOMMUNICATIONS - 3	5
MARINE SECURITY GUARD (6 WATCHSTANDERS, 1 NCO)	7
DAO	2
USIS	2

TOTAL: USG DIRECT HIRE AND MILITARY 35  
CONTRACT PERSONNEL (MAINTENANCE, INCLUDING  
POWER GENERATION) 2

TDY: (THE MISSION WILL CONTINUE TO NEED THE 1  
SERVICES OF 1 LAO SPEAKING USAID  
OFFICER TO ACT AS LIAISON OFFICER WITH  
THE LAO COMMITTEE OF DEMONSTRATORS  
AND PL WHO SUPERVISE PACKING OF EACH OF  
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 04271 151554Z

THE USAID RESIDENCES)

GRAND TOTAL:

38

2. A REDUCTION OF THIS MAGNITUDE WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING CONSEQUENCES FOR THE MISSION:

A. DAO. REDUCTION TO 2 PERSONS WILL ELIMINATE AVAILABILITY OF ATTACHE AIRCRAFT. IT WILL ALSO HAVE EFFECT ON COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY; POST HAS ASKED MILITARY TO PLACE TEMPORARY HOLD ON COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE TELETYPE AND VOICE CAPABILITY FOR EMBASSY COMMUNICATIONS SINCE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVIDE FOR 4 US TECHNICIANS TO SUPPORT THIS EQUIPMENT WITHIN THE PROPOSED REDUCED STAFFING. WITHOUT THIS, EMBASSY MUST RELY ON RADIO TELETYPE VIA CLARK FIELD. THIS SYSTEM SERVES AS BACKUP BUT HAS THE DISADVANTAGE OF 2-3 HOURS OUTAGE IN EVERY 24 HOURS BECAUSE OF ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS.

B. USIS. REDUCTION TO ONE OFFICER WILL FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES HALT NORMAL USIS ACTIVITY. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT WE SHOULD KEEP AT LEAST ONE USIS OFFICER ON STAFF AS BASIS FROM WHICH WE COULD REBUILD SERVICE SHOULD IT LATER BE DETERMINED TO BE IN OUR INTERESTS TO DO SO.

C. EMBASSY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF. SECURITY OFFICER POSITION WOULD BE ELIMINATED AND SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES WOULD BE HANDLED BY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER. PERSONNEL, B&F, AND GSO SECTIONS ARE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE DELUGED WITH THE RESIDUAL PROBLEMS INVOLVING PHASE-OUT OF USAID AND THE SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS OF EMBASSY, USIS AND DAO STAFF. IT CANNOT BE FURTHER REDUCED WITHOUT COMPLETE COLLAPSE OF OPERATION.

3. WHILE SUCH A REDUCTION WILL CREATE INNUMERABLE PROBLEMS, WE RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR IT AND WILL PROCEED TO MAKE IT AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS, REACHING 61 BY JUNE 23 AND 38 NO LATER THAN JUNE 30.

4. PAO CONSIDERS THAT 2 IS MINIMUM TO CARRY OUT THE NECESSARY USIS OPERATION, WHICH INCLUDES THE BI-NATIONAL CENTER.

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PAGE 03 VIENTI 04271 151554Z

CHARGE COMMENT: AS WE MOVE AHEAD, WE SHALL STUDY MORE CLOSELY ALTERNATIVE STAFFING PATTERNS AND PARTICULARLY POSSIBILITY OF OFFICERS COVERING MORE THAN ONE FUNCTION.  
CHAPMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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